IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Original): An aqueous dispersion of a copolymer obtained by free radical copolymerization of

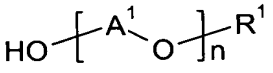
(A) at least one ethylenically unsaturated dicarboxylic anhydride, derived from at least one dicarboxylic acid of 4 to 8 carbon atoms,

(B) at least one oligomer of isobutene, at least one oligomer having an average molecular weight M_n of from 300 to 5 000 g/mol,

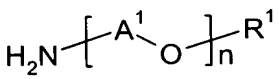
(C) optionally at least one ethylenically unsaturated comonomer differing from (A),

and reaction with

(D) at least one compound of the formula I a or I b



I a



I b

and subsequent addition of water,

wherein, in formulae I a and I b,

A^1 are identical or different C_2-C_{20}-alkylene,

R^1 are linear or branched C_1-C_{30}-alkyl, phenyl or hydrogen, and

n is an integer from 1 to 200,

the water content being from 30 to 99.5% by weight, based on aqueous dispersion.

Claim 2 (Original): The aqueous dispersion according to claim 1, wherein some or all of the anhydride group of the copolymer are hydrolyzed with water or an aqueous alkaline solution after the polymerization.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The aqueous dispersion according to claim 1 ~~either of claims 1 and 2~~, wherein the molar ratios of comonomers incorporated in the form of polymerized units in the copolymer are as follows:

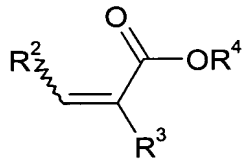
(A) from 5 to 60 mol%,

(B) from 1 to 95 mol%,

(C) from 0 to 70 mol%, based in each case on copolymer, the sum of (A), (B) and (C) being 100 mol%, and

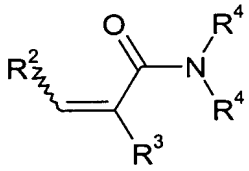
(D) from 0 to 50 mol%, based on all carboxyl groups of the copolymer.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The aqueous dispersion according to claim 1 ~~any of claims 1 to 3~~, wherein (C) is selected from ethylenically unsaturated C_3-C_8-carboxylic acid derivatives of the formula II



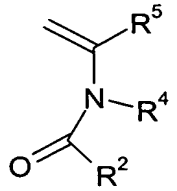
II

carboxamides of the formula III

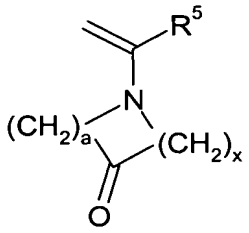


III

acyclic amides of the formula IV a or cyclic amides of the formula IV b



IV a



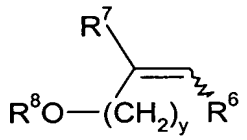
IV b

C_1-C_{20}-alkyl vinyl ethers,

N-vinyl derivatives of nitrogen-containing aromatic compounds,

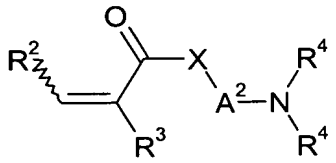
α,β-unsaturated nitriles,

alkoxylated unsaturated ethers of the formula V



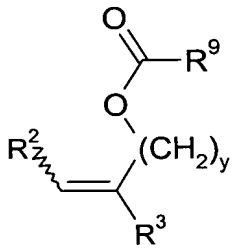
V

esters or amides of the formula VI



VI

unsaturated esters of the formula VII

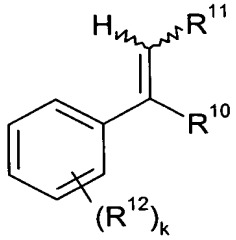


VII

comonomers containing phosphate, phosphonate, sulfate and sulfonate groups,

α-olefins of 3 to 40 carbon atoms,

vinylaromatic compounds of the formula VIII



VIII

where, in the formulae,

A^2 and A^3 are identical or different and are C_2-C_{20}-alkylene,

R^2 and R^3 are identical or different and are selected from hydrogen, straight-chain or branched C_1-C_5-alkyl and $COOR^4$,

R^4	are identical or different and are selected from hydrogen and branched or straight-chain C_1-C_{22}-alkyl,
R^5	is hydrogen or methyl,
x	is an integer from 2 to 6,
y	is an integer selected from 0 and 1,
a	is an integer from 0 to 6,
b	is an integer from 1 to 200,
R^6 and R^7	are identical or different and are selected from hydrogen and straight-chain or branched C_1-C_{10}-alkyl,
X	is oxygen or N-R^4
R^8	is $[A^3\text{-}O]_b\text{-}R^4$,
R^9	are identical or different and are selected from hydrogen and straight-chain or branched C_1-C_{10}-alkyl,
R^{10} and R^{11},	independently of one another, are hydrogen, methyl or ethyl,
R^{12}	is selected from methyl and ethyl,
k	is an integer from 0 to 2

and the remaining variables are defined as above.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The aqueous dispersion according to ~~any of claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1, which comprises at least one oligomer of isobutene, at least one oligomer having an average molecular weight M_n of from 300 to 5 000 g/mol.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): A process for the preparation of an aqueous dispersion according to claim 1 ~~any of claims 1 to 5~~, wherein (B) and (C) are initially taken,

initiator and (A) are added by a feed method, (A), (B) and (C) are subjected to free radical copolymerization with one another, then reacted with (D) and then water is added.

Claim 7 (Original): The process according to claim 6, wherein reaction with (D) is effected during or after the copolymerization of (A), (B) and, if required, (C) with (D).

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The use of an aqueous dispersion according to claim 1 ~~any of claims 1 to 5~~ for the treatment of fibrous substrates.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): A process for the treatment of fibrous substrates using an aqueous dispersion according to claim 1 ~~any of claims 1 to 5~~.

Claim 10 (Original): The process according to claim 9, wherein fibrous substrates are selected from leather, textile, paper, board, wood, wood composites, artificial leather, alcantara and lefa.

Claim 11 (Original): The process according to claim 10, wherein the leather is wet-white.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): A fibrous substrate treated by a process according to ~~any of claims 9 to 11~~ claim 9.

Claim 13 (Original): The fibrous substrate according to claim 12, wherein said substrate is leather.

Claim 14 (Original): The leather according to claim 13, wherein said leather is based on wet-white.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): The use of a fibrous substrate according to ~~any of claims 12 to 14~~ claim 12 for the production of articles of clothing or pieces of furniture or automotive parts.

Claim 16 (Original): A copolymer obtainable by free radical copolymerization of

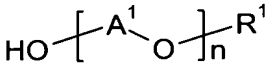
(A) at least one ethylenically unsaturated dicarboxylic anhydride, derived from at least one dicarboxylic acid of 4 to 8 carbon atoms,

(B) at least one oligomer of isobutene, at least one oligomer having an average molecular weight M_n of from 300 to 5 000 g/mol,

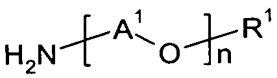
(C) optionally at least one ethylenically unsaturated comonomer differing from (A),

and reaction with

(D) at least one compound of the formula I a or I b



I a



I b

where, in formulae I a and I b,

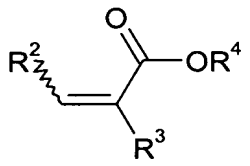
A^1 are identical or different C_2-C_{20}-alkylene,

R^1 is linear or branched C_1-C_{30}-alkyl, phenyl or hydrogen, and

n is an integer from 1 to 200,

and optionally hydrolysis.

Claim 17 (Original): The copolymer according to claim 16, wherein (C) is selected from ethylenically unsaturated C_3-C_8-carboxylic acid derivatives of the formula II



II

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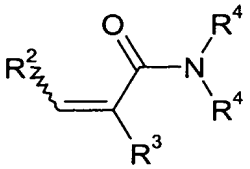
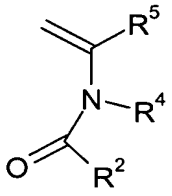
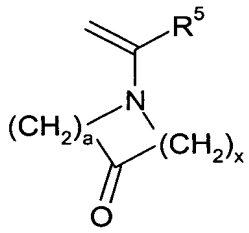


III

acyclic amides of the formula IV a or cyclic amides of the formula IV b



IV a



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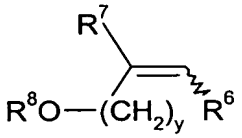
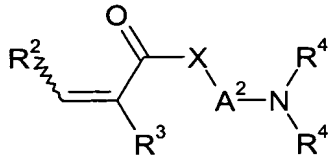


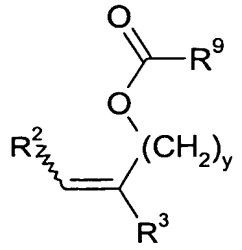
V

esters or amides of the formula VI



VI

unsaturated esters of the formula VII



VII

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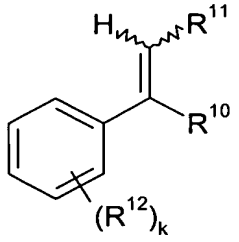

VIII

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R^5 is hydrogen or methyl,

x is an integer from 2 to 6,

y is an integer selected from 0 and 1,

a is an integer from 0 to 6,

b is an integer from 1 to 200,

R^6 and R^7 are identical or different and are selected from hydrogen and straight-chain or branched C_1-C_{10}-alkyl,

X is oxygen or N-R^4

R^8	is $[A^3\text{-}O]_b\text{-}R^4$,
R^9	are identical or different and are selected from hydrogen and straight-chain or branched C_1-C_{10}-alkyl,
R^{10} and R^{11},	independently of one another, are hydrogen, methyl or ethyl,
R^{12}	is selected from methyl and ethyl,
k	is an integer from 0 to 2

and the remaining variables are defined as above.

Claim 18 (Currently Amended): The use of a copolymer according to claim 16 ~~or 17~~ for the treatment of fibrous substrates.

Claim 19 (Currently Amended): The use of an aqueous dispersion according to claim 1 ~~any of claims 1 to 5 or a copolymer according to claim 16 or 17~~ for the impregnation of sheet-like substrates.

Claim 20 (Currently Amended): A process for the impregnation of sheet-like substrates, wherein a sheet-like substrate is treated with an aqueous dispersion according to claim 2 ~~any of claims 1 to 5 or with a copolymer according to claim 16 or 17~~.

Claim 21 (Original): The process according to claim 20, wherein the sheet-like substrate is concrete or brick.